

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

Number: WIAB00-2

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TO: LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREAS
CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIALS
CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD STAFF
WID STAFF

SUBJECT: RAPID RESPONSE ASSISTANCE

Sections 101(38) and 134(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Title 20 Code of Federal Regulations Section 665.300 through 665.330 provide guidance regarding Rapid Response (RR) activities.

Under WIA, California will continue to implement the decentralized RR strategy that has been found effective under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). As a key part of this strategy, funding will continue to be directed to local areas throughout the State to defray the costs of implementing RR services that appropriately respond to local dislocation events.

In past years, RR funding has been provided to local service delivery areas via a formal application process. The process used under WIA has changed somewhat. Each local workforce investment area's (LWIA) funding will be determined on the basis of a "zero-based" application, which chief elected officials/local workforce investment boards will be asked to submit by August 31, 2000. An application format will be released by July 31, 2000, via a follow-up information bulletin, and final funding decisions made by close of business October 31, 2000. These applications will outline proposed RR activities in each LWIA, consistent with the legislative and regulatory authorizations referenced above, and will estimate the necessary and reasonable costs of those activities.

In respect to Program Year (PY) 2000/2001, the State will provide RR bridge funds to LWIAs in advance of formal applications. This is intended to maintain continuity during the current changeover from JTPA to WIA. The amount provided to each LWIA is equal to half of the net RR funding of bridge funds that has been provided to the respective service delivery areas for PY 1999/2000. The State is unilaterally incorporating this amount into each WIA subgrant immediately after it is fully executed.

The bridge amount should not be assumed to be indicative of the full amount of RR funding that will be provided to meet each LWIA's needs during PY 00/01. Each LWIA's full RR funding amount will be at least equal to its bridge-funding amount.

Timely action in respect to the "zero-based" applications will minimize uncertainty about the scope and content of the RR effort that can be funded and implemented in each

LWIA through the year. The allowable RR activities under WIA are essentially the same as those that were allowable under JTPA.

If you have any questions about this information bulletin, please contact your Program Manager or call (916) 654-7799.

/S/ BILL BURKE
Chief